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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 20 | Humidity 75% Partly cloudy sky Sensex 55,925 | Nifty 16,661 | Gold 51,070 | Silver 61,930 | Dollar 77.56 | Euro 83.61 | GBP 98.05

How women working in garment industry are empowering themselves learning to pedal to work

ZEN AND THE ART OF LEARNING TO CYCLE

Sessions at Laggere, Cubbon Park, Peenya with 30-40 participants

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"I used to take the bus, spending close to Rs 40 a day. Now, I can go directly to the factory — Bhoomika M

There are scores of garment factories in Bengaluru where thousands of women go to work daily. The women who draw low wages often cannot afford personal vehicles. They are dependent on buses and shared autos/vans. The commute was difficult during the covid pandemic when public transport was a concern.

As most women manage both home and work, they find it tough to reach factories on time — a delay would mean losing half-a-day's wage.

Now, a few women working in the garment industry are learning to cycle to work. Volunteers in the city pitched in to ensure the women learn to pedal.

Dr Ali Poonawala, 65, a volunteer of Bengaluru Bicycling School said, "We reached out to the factory unions. Many women came forward. We organised training sessions at Laggere, Cubbon Park and Peenya based on an even training surface, participants' comfort and convenience. In each session, we had 30 to 40 participants — out of which, 10-odd members had never cycled before; their parents had not allowed them during childhood. Others had tried but were discouraged due to the constant falls, initially."

Volunteers also observed that participants had challenges like peer pressure. Some who wanted to learn cycling instantly had to be counselled, and told that it would require time. Some, short in height, found it tough to

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A textbook case of delay

State board schools await textbooks two weeks into academic year

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In-person classes for this academic year began on May 16. However, students enrolled in schools affiliated to the state board are yet to receive their textbooks.

Teachers are using printed-out copies of online textbooks provided by the education department. School managements are worried the textbooks this year might be delayed than usual.

"We have not received the textbooks for any of the classes so far. The books were expected to arrive before the schools reopened. The date was set as May 16 by the department itself; the textbooks have not reached us," said MN Natesh Kumar, principal of Gurukul International School.

Many are managing with printout copies and by conducting bridge courses in the meantime. This is causing hardship to teachers and students, according to many schools.

"In absence of even a single textbook, we are going with bridge courses, refreshing last year's syllabus and teaching basics. The department has sent us soft copies and has asked us to take printouts and manage in the meantime. We have provided printouts to the teachers. However, we cannot do that for every student," added Natesh Kumar.

Schools are also procuring textbooks from old students and distributing the same to children this year. Some are using the leftover stock from last year. They said the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 All about electoral reforms

N Gopalaswami, a former Chief Election Commissioner of India (2006–2009) and a Padma Bhushan awardee (2015) will be conducting a lecture on the 'need for electoral reforms' at RV University at Mysuru Road on Tuesday, May 31st, from 2:00-3:00 p.m. The event is open to the public. Attend this session to know more about this issue.
Where: RV University
When: May 31, 2pm – 3pm

02 Laugh out loud

Indian Institute of Cartoonists is organising an exhibition of cartoons and exclusive sketches of Bengaluru places drawn by noted cartoonist Mr EP Unny. In this exhibition along with his punch packed cartoons, his exclusive sketches of Bengaluru will be displayed at the cartoon gallery. He will also have an interactive session with the public.
Where: Indian Institute of Cartoonists, M G Road
When: June 4 onwards, 10am – 6pm (Sundays closed)

03 Handicrafts & more

Dastkar brings the most authentic experience of Indian handicrafts by bringing a confluence of more than 100 craft groups and craftpreneurs from 20+ states across India within one arena. The Bengaluru Dastkar Bazaar will offer a wide range of lifestyle accessories, silver jewellery, and adornments, metal crafts, carved furniture & decorative products, pottery & ceramics, basketry & fibre crafts, leather products, traditional paintings, a variety of hand-woven, embroidered, block printed textiles and more.
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel
When: Till June 2, 10.30 am – 8.30 pm
Info: 9910802970/9742801793

Special kids reel under pandemic's cruel lessons

Children are dropping out of mainstream schools to avoid bullying & lack of inclusivity

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When 14-year-old Ishaani (name changed) went back to school post covid-19-induced online classes and a summer vacation, things appeared different. She was repeatedly bullied by her classmates.

According to her, her friends would bully her to bark like a dog. She knew it was wrong, but if she did not do so, they would no longer be her friends. They also made fun of her being autistic. While the family reported the bullying to the teachers, it did not stop.

A borderline intellectual functioning case, Ishaani was part of a mainstream school in the city. However, repeated bullying led to poor self-esteem and Ishaani's parents have now decided to put her back in a special school.

"Ishaani was part of a school before we could enroll her into an inclusive private city school. However, she faced a lot of issues there. She was constantly bullied by her peer group. We recently confirmed her a seat in our school, although we know that she belongs in a mainstream setup," said Swathi Vellal, founder and director, Ishanya India Foundation.

According to Vellal and other special schools in Bengaluru, many children who are borderline intellectual functioning cases and were mainstreamed long back, are dropping out and coming back to special schools post covid-19.

"We are flooded with admission requests from such children. We had another boy like Ishaani who was bullied a lot and joined us a few months back. We have a lot of students dropping out of the mainstream off late," added Vellal.

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Covid has made inclusivity a bigger challenge for special kids

Teachers and staff often refuse to teach such children and there is a severe lack of empathy and sensitization, say parents

Although the parents were counseled to put these kids back to the regular schools, they were reluctant.

"We tried to convince parents with a promise that we will get in touch with the school management to make things easier for the child. But parents say they are done with mainstream schools. They just want their children to be in a place where they are safe and can learn," said Vellal.

According to Sarbani Mallick, founder and managing trustee, Bubbles Centre for Autism, while the number of such inquiries has been overwhelming, the schools have a limited number of seats.

"We have been getting many inquiries from the parents who now want to put their children back to special schools, but we cannot admit all of them. For us, it is not about adding numbers but catering to our students. Our student-teacher ratio is maxed at 1:6," said Mallick.

Too many challenges

According to the experts, bullying by their peers, lack of adequate support and poor sensitization are some of the reasons pushing many borderline autistic children out of the mainstream, especially post-pandemic.

"My son used to attend classes in a regular private school with the help of a shadow teacher (a co-educator who monitors a child with special needs in class) that we had hired from an agency. However, on days the shadow teacher would be absent, my son also had to sit at home. This is because the schoolteachers refused to work with him when the shadow teacher was not around. He missed out on a lot of classes. We would rather send him to a special school," lamented a parent.

Experts say while the mainstream school managements welcome inclusion, sometimes this vision does not get passed on to every teacher. Moreover, the last two years of online classes could have contributed to the lack of apathy among regular children towards the special kids.

"It is difficult for a teacher at a mainstream school to take care of a child with ADHD or other learning disabilities. However, it is not impossible as well. Teachers, other staff and regular students should be sensitized through workshops. While we have proposed this to many mainstream inclusive schools in the city, most of them are not comfortable with an external organization intervening with their systems and processes," added Vellal.

According to D Shashi Kumar, secretary of the Association of Primary and Secondary schools of Karnataka, as per national and state educational initiatives, while every child with special needs should be placed in regular schools with needed support services, the government has failed these children.

"Around 12-14 per cent of the total student population in the mainstream consists of borderline learning disability cases. These children need strong intervention which could not happen during the pandemic. This has created a huge learning gap and now they are unable to move forward without interventions. Being in a mainstream school is the right given to these kids by the law. However, the State Government has failed to address the needs of these special children," said Kumar.

Inclusion is the way forward

"Special children benefit a lot when they are with neurotypical children and create a social circle. With additional support, the borderline cases can be managed in regular school. Moreover, it is an opportunity for other children to learn as well. However, awareness is lacking," added Vellal.

K'taka student ranks 31 in UPSC exam

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Among the many students who topped the UPSC exam results that were announced on Monday, Karnataka student V Avinash (inset) bagged the 31st rank.

Based on the result of the Civil Services Examination, 2021, held by the Union Public Service Commission in January, 2022 and the interviews for Personality Test held in April-May, 2022, around 685 candidates have been recommended for appointment to Indian Administrative Service, Indian Foreign Service, Indian Police Service and Central Services-Group 'A' and Group 'B'.

Among the toppers, KT Meghana, a visually impaired candidate from Kengeri, secured 425th rank. When she was studying in tenth standard, she had a problem with her retina and lost 70 per cent of her vision. She had earlier attempted UPSC in 2020 when she had got 465th rank, and is currently working in the Treasury Department.

HIVE MAINTENANCE

Apartment complexes are organising workshops, talks to understand how to coexist with bees

Honeybee conservationist and beekeeper Apoorva BV conducts free sessions at apartment complexes to explain to its residents how it is possible to let the bees be without much hassle to all parties involved

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It's a common story in Bengaluru: a beehive is spotted on a balcony, on a tree next to the kids' play area or an electric pole close to the entrance of an apartment complex. The residents panic, pest control is called in and the beehive is either relocated or bees are killed by spraying poisonous chemicals.

However, there is a rise in eco-conscious societies and residents in the city now; those who do not talk of killing honeybees but are learning and teaching ways to coexist with this nature's marvelous engineer. These groups living in various apartment complexes and societies are reaching out to experts to make their fellow residents understand and learn the ways to save bees, one hive at a time.

Adarsh Palm Retreat in Bellandur is one such eco-friendly society.

"We are a huge community of 2,500 families and a new beehive comes up every second week. Residents keep complaining and requesting the maintenance team to remove them. Usually, they are smoked out and it bothers me that bees are being removed and treated as pests. This is when I decided to reach out to a honeybee expert to resolve this conflict," said Anu Mathur, a resident of Adarsh Palm Retreat.

The society has now organised a talk on urban bee conservation to comprehend how they can co-exist with pollinating insects.

Vajram Tiara in Yelahanka is yet another apartment complex that arranged an awareness session on letting the bees be. The apartment dwellers recently faced a human-honey bee conflict episode and a pest control team was called to remove the hive. However, a group of residents protested saying killing them is not the right way to resolve the conflict.

"There were mixed opinions. While some did not want to kill or relocate the beehive, the rest of the residents were worried about having a hive inside the society. This is when we decided to have an awareness session on coexisting with honeybees. Someone who could educate the society members if there are better ways to deal with the issue," said Sai, Deepika Desetty, a resident of Vajram Tiara.

"I advise people to wait for three to four months after the bees have arrived and nested. Honeybees are migratory and they are bound to leave in some time

– Apoorva BV, beekeeper

Desetty says, the residents got a better perspective on why bees are repeatedly nesting on apartments and balconies. "We have occupied a lot of space and cut down hundreds of trees that they would have otherwise used for the hive. The session also sensitised people on how honeybees are not a threat but a necessity," said Desetty.

These talks are organised and delivered free of cost by Apoorva BV, a honeybee conservationist and a beekeeper by profession. Apoorva says the idea behind these sessions is to tell a deeper story of the delicate balance between humans and the honeybees we depend on for the majority of the food we consume.

According to Apoorva, it is our deep-seated fear of this busy pollinator that holds back urban bee conservation. The only way for people to get rid of this fear is by understanding the bees' inherent behaviour, by learning where they come from and by knowing the pattern of their movement.

"If we can spread awareness about the behaviour and pattern of the honeybees, this sense of fear will disappear. These insects deserve a high degree of reverence looking at the important role they play in stabilizing our ecosystem. When we talk to people and explain the science behind the importance of honeybees, it removes a part of their fear," said Apoorva.

Experts say even the non-cruel methods of translocating beehives should be the last resort. Learning to coexist with honeybees is the key. They say honeybees nest soon after the monsoon, in October, or come back post-monsoon, in March. However, immediately after the monsoon, 90-95 % of the colonies vacate their nests in search of food.

"I advise people to wait for three to four months after the bees have arrived and nested. Honeybees are migratory and they are bound to leave in some time. Even if we humanely remove the hive, they will nest in some other locality creating a conflict there. Thus, the problem is shifted and not solved," said Apoorva. He added that hundreds of hives are removed and thousands of bees are being killed in Bengaluru every day.

"I have spent 13 years with honeybees and thus it becomes my responsibility to educate people about the crucial role this insect plays in our ecosystem. Bee sensitisation programmes and talks should be taken up by every society with conflicts," added Apoorva.

Mayhem at farmers' meet; 3 detained

The press conference held at Gandhi Bhavan turned violent with a few miscreants throwing black paint on farmer leader Rakesh Tikait on Monday. The attack happened when Tikait was attending a press conference on "Raita Chaluvali, Aatmavalokana haagu Spasteekarana Sabha (Farmer's Movement, Introspection and Clarification Meeting)" organised by Karnataka State Farmers Association and Hasiru Sene.

When the leaders were clarifying the recent allegations against farmer leader Kodihalli Chandrashekar, who was exposed by the local media on negotiating bribes for stopping protests, three men suddenly climbed the platform and threw black paint upon Rakesh Tikait. Another farmer leader Yudhvir Singh was also smeared with black paint. Eye-witnesses said that Tikait suffered an injury on his head.

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

The farmer leaders and activists, who were present at the press conference, dragged the miscreants and thrashed them. The local police, who rushed to the spot, arrested the three. Later, the farmer leaders alleged that police failed to protect Tikait.

– BMB & Agencies

Police hunt for SUV driver who run over stray

Police have launched a manhunt for an SUV driver who ran his vehicle over a stray dog here. A shocking video of the incident, which took place on May 27, emerged on Monday in which the dog could be seen sleeping by the roadside when the SUV mowed it down. From the video, it appeared that the driver deliberately ran his vehicle over the dog.

Animal lovers have lodged a complaint against the SUV driver with the Jayanagar police. The police have registered a case under Section 11 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, along with the relevant sections of the IPC.

The police are verifying the CCTV footage of the area to gather clues about the accused driver. —IANS

For want of a proper vent

Tender process for stormwater vent construction at Horamavu's Sai Layout will begin soon, says Palike; residents however, remain sceptical

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It's a promise that residents of Sai Layout, Horamavu ward, have heard too often. After having to fend for themselves every time the rain lashed the city and flooded their homes, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has said that the tender process inviting bidders for the construction of an additional vent in the area is expected to be finalised soon.

If Palike keeps their word, hapless residents of KR Puram may no longer have to resort to extreme measures the next time it rains.

These residents suffered a lot when their homes were flooded with water in September 2020 and May 2022. It took more than 20 months for the BBMP authorities to allocate funds for the construction of an additional vent at Geddalahalli railway underbridge (RUB) near Sai Layout.

The BBMP had floated a tender inviting bidder for the construction of the vent at an estimated cost of Rs 35 crore and the tender process is expected to be finalised by June-end.

But residents are not ready to take the BBMP seriously. They said that the BBMP authorities have been assuring them that they will ensure no flooding at Sai Layout for more than 20 months. They say that the BBMP authorities did nothing during the last year.

"I believe that the BBMP Storm Water Drain Department should have taken up the construction of an additional vent last year itself. I do not know why the authorities did nothing for the last 20 months," said Horamavu ward former corporator Radhamma Venkataswamy, adding that the then Chief Minister BS Yediyurappa had visited the area in September 2020 and current Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai also visited this layout recently.

A flooded Sai Layout during the rains that lashed Bengaluru recently; (inset) firemen try and pump out excess water from the streets

Many residents, especially those residing on the ground floor of the buildings, incurred a huge loss when their homes were flooded two times in 20 months. Some of the students lost school books and employees lost laptops due to water logging at their homes.

On May 19, BM reported how the absence of a proper SWD drain wreaked havoc

"It has become a habit for the elected representatives and the BBMP authorities to visit our layout and forget their promises whenever our homes are flooded. They make some arrangements to supply water and food packets for one or two days and forget to fix the problem on a permanent basis. I hope the BBMP authorities do something to prevent flooding in this layout in future," said Ramesh R, a resident.

Emphasising the need of expediting the measures to commence the construction of additional vent as early as possible, Neelufar, a resident, said the authorities should begin construction work without any more delays.

"The monsoon is set to enter Karnataka soon. The BBMP authorities should engage a contractor to make a way facilitating smooth flow of water in the stormwater drain. I do not want my home flooded with rainwater in the future," she added.

> **The BBMP Storm Water Drain Department should have taken up the construction last year itself** – Radhamma Venkataswamy, Horamavu ward's former corporator

So extreme was the situation that many tenants vacated their homes in Sai Layout a few days ago as they did not want to take the chance of losing their valuables. They incurred a huge loss when electronic goods and home appliances were damaged due to waterlogging.

"Many buildings are vacant. Most of the tenants, especially those residing on the ground floor, have already vacated because of the recent rain havoc in the layout," said Rame Gowda, a resident.

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Trash on fire
Basavanagudi

The trash is on the road as always, but they have made it worse by putting it on fire. There's been a lot of pollution and difficulty in breathing. This is happening on a daily basis now.

Broken equipment
JP Nagar

In RBI Layout, JP Nagar Park, broken fitness equipment is thrown everywhere.

Spot the pavement
Kammanahalli

The footpath opposite to Joyalukkas on Kammanahalli Main Road is always filled with trash and the BBMP is least bothered. No place for pedestrians to walk on this busy stretch.

Vacancy Notice No. 1-04/2022-A&P
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(Old Minto Road) Next to Zakir Hussain College
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Sub: Filling up of the post of Senior Research Officer in TRAI Regional Offices at Jaipur, Bhopal and Bengaluru on deputation on foreign service terms: Extension of last date for receipt of applications – Reg.

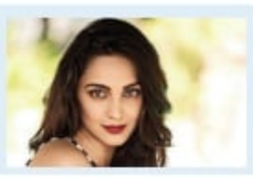
Reference is invited to TRAI, New Delhi vacancy circular of even No. dated 06th April, 2022 under which applications were invited for filling up the following post in its Regional Offices at Jaipur, Bhopal and Bengaluru on deputation on foreign service terms:

Name of post	Pay Level / Pay Scale
Senior Research Officer	Pay Level-11 Rs. 67700-208700 in the Pay Matrix as per 7th CPC [Pre-revised PB-3, Rs. 15600-39100+GP Rs. 6600]

2. The last date for receipt of applications has now been extended upto **17th June, 2022.**
3. Further details and application form can be obtained from the TRAI website **www.trai.gov.in.**

DAVP 06202/12/0010/2223

FILM PAGE 12 'Success has helped me find my voice'



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FILM PAGE 12 IAK debut soon?

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31st May, 10.55 AM | Program to begin at 9.45 AM at all State and District Headquarters and Krishi Vigyan Kendras

- 3.15 Cr beneficiaries have received their 'Pucca Awaas' and are living a better life
- 10 Cr+ farmers have been empowered financially with PM – Kisan Samman Nidhi amounting to ₹2.03 lakh Cr
- More than 9.22 Cr Ujjwala beneficiaries are living a smoke-free life with free of cost LPG connection
- 13.78 Cr+ children & pregnant women are living a happy, malnutrition-free & healthy life
- Construction of 11.58 Cr toilets has offered a hygienic life to the beneficiaries
- Access to safe and adequate drinking water to 10.78 Cr families has made their lives easier, safer and free from serious diseases
- With easy access to bank loans more than 30 lakh street vendors are living a better life with dignity
- About 77 Cr beneficiaries have been enabled to obtain highly subsidized foodgrains in any part of the country under the One Nation One Ration Card scheme
- During COVID-19 period, more than 80 Cr beneficiaries have received free foodgrains under Pradhan Mantri – Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana
- Under Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, 3.44 Cr families have received cashless treatments for the 1st time
- Under Ayushman Bharat- Health and Wellness Centre program 93.89 Cr beneficiaries have received quick primary health care
- 35 Cr+ Mudra loan beneficiaries have chosen self-employment and are walking the path of self-reliance

"During the last 8 years, several schemes have been initiated and benefits of those schemes have already reached crores of poor households. These government schemes are achieving the goals efficiently. But it does not end here, now is the time to achieve 100% saturation."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Watch the event live on DD News

davp 35101/13/0003/2223

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

balance. So, volunteers used folding bikes where the wheelbase was shorter.

"I had been to Kodaikanal where one can rent cycles and go around. I noticed that men and boys were cycling while women were standing at a distance watching as they didn't know cycling. Even in Jayanagar, I noticed many women were not coming forward. So, we decided that it was time to teach cycling to everyone," Dr Poonawala told BM.

Techie Shamala Kittane, volunteering for the project, said, "We observed that the women were really excited and loved the whole experience. Many felt a sense of accomplishment. Pedalling to office was a way of expressing their freedom and independence. Many told me that they could never learn cycling as kids due to various reasons but were glad to do it now. After our training, Greenpeace gifted 250 cycles to women in the city."

Garment workers learn cycling

Dr Poonawala, who is a urologist, said cycling was not just helpful for the community but also a healthy exercise. "Pedalling definitely helps if someone is suffering from musculoskeletal issues as it is a non-impact sport that improves stamina."

A few of the women have already started to cycle to factories. "I live in Madavara and travel to T Dasarahalli for work. I used to depend on the bus and had to spend close to Rs 40 a day. Now, I can go directly to the factory," 30-year-old Bhoomika M said.

Honnamma H, 39, said, "I stay at Doddabidarakallu and my factory is located at Chokkasandra. There was no direct bus; I had to walk 2 km to reach the main road and then take a shared auto before walking a kilometre again to reach my factory. Earlier, it used to take 45 minutes to reach the factory and now its takes 20 minutes to pedal to work."

Sheela Lokeshappa, 35, said, "I used to walk a few kilometres from Venugopala Nagar to Chokkasandra; but now I am pedalling to my factory; this saves time."

Yashodha PH, executive director and general secretary of Munnade Social Organisation, who has been coordinating for the training programme said, "These garment workers are now saving money on travel. It is a time saving initiative. Cycling is, in a way, women empowerment. We are also contributing to the environment by reducing carbon footprint."

She said, with many women bringing cycles, now parking lots are being created in companies: "There are five lakh people working in the garment industry and only a negligible number of them have started cycling. A few are finding it tough to change gears of the cycles. They are being trained now and it may take a month or two before all of them are confident of cycling to work."

Textbook row: Litterateur resigns

The textbook revision row refuses to die down in Karnataka with well-known Kannada scholar, poet and writer Hampa Nagarajaiah, popularly known by his pen name Hampana, stepping down as the President of Kuvempu Pratishthana demanding legal action against Rohith Chakrathirtha, the chairperson of the Textbook Revision Committee.

Hampana resigned from his post on Monday and addressed his resignation letter to Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai. Kuvempu Pratishthana is a literary organisation established by the government of Karnataka.

Hampana had written a letter to the government seeking initiation of action against Chakrathirtha for allegedly distorting the regional anthem of the state written by late poet Kuppali Venkatappa Puttappa, popularly known by his pen name Kuvempu. "Instead of initiating legal action against the person who insulted Kuvempu, who brought laurels to Kannada and Indian literature, the government has given responsibility to him. He has abused Kuvempu and the community he represented. This is a dangerous trend," Hampana wrote in his resignation letter.

The act has sent a wrong message to the society that whoever attacks literary personalities will get plum positions in the committees formed by the state government, he said. "Our trust in the government that it would protect the dignity and honour of great personalities has proved to be wrong," Hampana said. "It became difficult to remain quiet after seeing Rashtra Kavi Kuvempu and his poem chosen as the regional anthem being insulted. Hence, I am submitting my resignation," he said. **IANS**

Schools await textbooks

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

department should have ensured an early delivery of books taking into account the learning gap that students have experienced in the last two years due to the pandemic.

The textbooks are printed by the Karnataka Text Book Society (KTBS) for private unaided and aided schools affiliated to the state board. While the books are free for aided and government schools, unaided schools procure the books by paying a 10% advance amount on the number of required copies, followed by the full amount before the classes begin. Most of the schools have made the full payment already.

"We have paid the full amount to the department around a month ago. They take 10% of the total book cost in January and the remaining amount is paid once they open up the payment gateway, which was on May 16. We have contacted the department and they have told us that stock is not available. They have only 40% of the total required books in each cluster. We order some extra copies every year and we are using those too. However, that is hardly adequate," lamented the principal of a city-based unaided school.

A handful of schools in the city have received a few copies. They said the textbooks ideally should have been issued by April. However, they reach only by May every year. They fear this time it is going to be delayed further.

"The department said there is a paucity of paper since paper mills are not operating and thus, they have not been able to keep up with production requirements. Although the textbooks arrive late every year, the process has been delayed even more this time. Moreover, since the parents have paid the fee, they think it is our responsibility and we have not procured books on time. Thus, we end up facing parents' backlash," said Kiran Prasad, principal, Vidya Vaibhav Public School.

According to D Shashi Kumar, secretary of the Association of Primary and Secondary Schools of Karnataka, while the association had made many proposals to the government in the past to ensure textbooks reach the students on time, none of the plans are implemented.

"When we reach out to the department, they say the books have reached the warehouse. However, ensuring that the books reach schools from there is a huge task. We have proposed many plans and ideas to ensure the books arrive on time. However, none of the plans get implemented. The government is busy politicising textbooks and not interested in looking at the requirements of the schools and children," said Kumar.

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CHANGE OF NAME

I, KUMARISHREEDEVI alias TANUSHREE (old name) W/O SACHINKUMAR MALLAAYYA PUJAR, and resident at SOHAN FORTUNE, FLAT NO 204, 2ND FLOOR, HALASANA HALLI ROAD, VARTUR, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA-560087, have changed my name as TANUSHREE S PUJAR vide affidavit dated 29.05.2022 sworn before notary Rajanna S. M, Bengaluru.

I Lokesh Revankar S/o. Vasudev Narayan Revankar R/a # 59, Panchamukhi, 6th A Cross, Balaji Layout Vidyapeetha Main Road, Bangalore- 560038. I have changed my name to LOKESH VASUDEV REVANKAR Vide affidavit dt: 28/05/2022. Sworn before Notary : A R Muneer Ahmed.

I, T. BALAKRISHNA S/o Thimma Reddy R/o C-9, 1st main, 2nd cross, Ramaiah Layout, Thavarekere main road, Suddaguntepalya, Bengaluru 560029 have changed my name to T. BALAKRISHNA REDDY affidavit Dt.28/05/2022 notary B.M Chandrashekar, B'luru.

I, VIJAYA NARASIMHA SHARMA DEVARAKONDA R/o #102, 2nd Cross, Shirdi Sai Nagar, K Narayanpura, Bangalore 560077. I have changed my name to VIJAY NARASIMHA SHARMA DEVARAKONDA. Vide affidavit dated 30-05-22, Sworn before Notary B. Sheshagiri Bangalore.

I, Anurag S/o Rajeshwar Prasad Chaudhary R/a. E 501, Springfields Apts t ,Ambali - pura, Bellandur, Bengaluru, 560103 have changed my name to Anurag Chaudhary vide affidavit dtd 30.05.2022 before Notary B.M. Chandrashekar

I, DEEPA DESHPANDE w/o Narasinha H Kulkarni R/o No.301, Malnad Residency, Ittamadu main road, Hanumhills Layout, Subraman -yapura, Bengaluru 560061 have changed my name to LAXMI NARASINHA KULKARNI affidavit Dt.30/05/2022 notary K.V Mani, B'luru

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New man at helm has a vision for Sandalwood

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-maheswara.reddy@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce (KFCC), under the leadership of a new president, is clear on its goals -- help small and medium budget movie producers in Sandalwood. With this in mind, the chamber wants the state government to extend the subsidy amount to all Kannada movies and also to facilitate construction of mini theaters for screening of movies across the state.

"Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai should extend subsidy to all Kannada movies instead of restricting the number of movies to 200. On an average, around 400 Kannada movies are being made per year," said KFCC president Ba Ma Harish.

Recently, Bommai had announced that the number of Kannada movies eligible for subsidy would be raised from 125 to 200. Each Kannada movie gets Rs 10 lakh as subsidy.

Ba Ma Harish got elected as the KFCC president after defeating Sa Ra Govindu by a margin of more than 400 votes in the recently held election. Harish said he wants to prepare a plan for the benefit of Sandalwood. "We will have a meeting with past presidents of KFCC to chalk out a revival plan for the industry," said Harish.

Ba Ma Harish wants more mini theaters to be constructed

According to Harish, the vacuum created by dismantling of single screen theaters can only be filled if new mini theaters are set up. "The state government should encourage people to contract small and medium theaters with a seating capacity of 200 to 300. Many exhibitors have demolished single screen theaters to construct malls," he said.

He said his other mission is to have only one film chamber of commerce instead of two. As of now, there are two film chambers – Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce and Kannada Film Chamber of Commerce.

"I will invite those who are away from the KFCC all these years. I want them to join the KFCC and work for the welfare of the Kannada film industry. I will organise a meeting with them soon," he said.

On the alleged misappropriation of funds at the KFCC, he said he wanted to put an end to all these issues. "I am not against anyone but I do not tolerate misappropriation of funds by anyone at the KFCC," he said.

'Negligent fair organisers are to blame for accident'

Mother of child grievously hurt in amusement park ride equipment failure also wonders why permissions are given without adequate checks

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

A 12-year-old girl sustained grievous injuries after an amusement park ride equipment failed and crashed on her at a local fair called Fish Theme Fair in Anand Nagar, Outer Ring Road, near HAL on Friday. The girl sustained multiple fractures on her collarbone and elbow and many open wounds. She was admitted to a private hospital for three days and got discharged on Sunday, the victim's mother told Bangalore Mirror. The girl was accompanied by her parents who had taken the kid for an outing before her school reopened on Monday.

In his complaint to the police, the victim's father said what had happened. "Around 8.30 pm, we had made her sit in one of the rides with toy jeeps, cars and bikes fixed by iron rods in a circle and the vehicles move on an iron track. After two rounds, the equipment failed and crashed. The heavy toy jeep detached from the frame and my daughter who was seated inside fell with it. My daughter fell on the metal track line and the toy jeep fell on her and she was underneath the vehicle," he said.

The panicked parents with the help of onlookers rushed to her rescue, lifted the toy jeep and found the little one injured beneath it. She had sustained injuries all over her body. She was immediately rushed to a nearby private hospital where she was treated for fractures. "She sustained a collarbone (clavicle) fracture and an elbow fracture. There were several open wounds which were sutured and stapled. There could be hairline fractures to her ribs as well, the doctors treating told us," said the victim's mother.

A toy jeep detached from its frame and the child fell on the track and the jeep fell on her at fair in Anand Nagar

> **The BBMP authorities who give permission to such amusement fairs without checking its fitness are also culpable for my daughter's condition today**
>
> –The 12-year-old girl's mother

Her mother said it was due to the negligence of the organisers and the staff at the fair, that the accident happened. "The BBMP authorities who give permission to such amusement fairs without checking its fitness are also culpable for my daughter's condition today," the mother added. She said they went to the fair assuming that all the equipment would be functioning properly because they trust that the BBMP would have given the necessary licence and permission to run the fair with utmost care. "Multiple children's lives are in danger if such substandard equipment are used in such fairs. My daughter was fortunate as the electric supply got disconnected and the entire ride stopped within a second. If the ride would have continued, then it would have been a disaster," her mother told Bangalore Mirror.

The child's father filed a complaint with the HAL police who visited the spot for an inspection. The cops have taken up a case under IPC sections 287 - for negligent conduct with respect to machinery and 337 - for causing hurt by an act which endangers human life, etc.

By the time the cops reached the spot, the organisers had welded back the broken iron fittings and were readying it for the rides. However, the police took photographs of the equipment and collected evidence from the spot. "After the accident, the organisers shut the fair only for a couple of hours putting a notice outside stating the generator is out of service and soon after the police inspection was over, the fair was back in business with the only faulty ride dismantled," said the child's mother. According to her, only the ride in which her daughter had an accident has been dismantled and only the owner of that ride would be punished. "But that will not make any difference or good to the public. Other rides too are in a bad condition and are allowed to operate, and the fair is still going on as if nothing had happened," the victim's mother added.

Based on complaint, the police have booked four persons identified as Fahrid, Jagan, Sudhakar, and Venkatesh and are questioning them.

A police constable from the HAL police station stated that this is not the first time such an accident is happening in Marathahalli at the same spot where the exhibitions happen.

In September 2018, a 25-year-old call centre employee fell off a giant wheel at the International Robotic Birds World Exhibition on the Outer Ring Road in Marathahalli. He sustained grievous injuries and the HAL police had registered a case against the organisers. A police personnel attached to HAL police station told BM that they are also investigating whether these are the same organisers who conducted both the events.

Robots centre in B'luru

E-commerce giant Amazon on Monday announced it will open a new consumer robotics software development centre here that will build solutions for the world. The India centre will help support Amazon's international Robotics division, which launched its first robot Astro last year.

"Last year we unveiled our first consumer robot, but it certainly will not be our last. This new consumer robotics software development centre will help support our growing consumer robotics division and attract top talent to work on world-class technology products," said Ken Washington, Vice President, Consumer Robotics, Amazon. Astro is designed to help customers with a range of tasks like home monitoring and keeping in touch with family.

32 foreigners detained

As many as 32 foreign nationals including 19 men and 13 women detained by Northeast division police in a special drive launched on Monday. Anoop A Shetty, DCP, North East division, said that the drive is to check for foreigners overstaying without valid documents. Most of the detained are from African countries whose IDs and addresses could not be verified. They are being questioned and legal action will be taken against them, Shetty said.

Cook stabbed over knife tiff

A 25-year-old cook was stabbed to death over a trivial row of another hotel staffer using his knife to cut vegetables at an eatery in Rajarajeshwarinagar 5th stage on Monday. The deceased Milan Baral, working as assistant chef at OSR hotel on 5th stage had a heated argument with the accused Aryan Pushkar, 20 for using his kitchen knife for cutting vegetables. Heated argument ensued between them in the melee Aryan stabbed Milan on his chest killing him on the spot.

LIC net profits down
LIC Q4 net profits down 17% YoY, announces Rs 1.5 dividend for FY22

BangaloreMirror | 8
Tuesday, May 31, 2022
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
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Petrol pump dealers to halt purchase today

Dealers protesting as their commissions have not been revised for long

#NEW DELHI

Petrol pump dealers across 24 states have decided not to purchase diesel and petrol from oil companies on Tuesday to mark their protest against dealers' commission which has not been revised since long, it was announced on Monday.

Around 70,000 outlets across 24 states will not buy fuel from oil marketing companies.

"Dealers across 24 states will join 'No Purchase Petrol and Diesel' campaign tomorrow to highlight the financial distress of the petrol pump owners across the country," Delhi Petrol Dealers Association President Anurag Narayan.

At a media briefing by the Petrol Pump Dealers Association, he said that the campaign to not purchase fuel from oil companies on Tuesday will be taken over the non-increase of dealer margins over the past 5 years and the issues with losses incurred from excise duty revisions by the government. The dealers association claimed that there was an agreement between OMCs and the dealers association that the dealers' margins will be revised every six months, but this has not been done since 2017.

The prices of fuel have almost doubled since 2017, hence the working capital in business has also doubled leading to additional loans and bank interest and the evaporation losses have also increased proportionately, it said. "The dealer commission is essentially a reimbursement of our expenses like salaries, electricity bills, and others which have increased manifold during the last five years. Our demand is to revise dealer commission which has been overlooked by OMCs," said Narayan.

People queue up to get fuel at a petrol bunk in Mumbai on Monday

The association demanded that the losses on account of excise reduction should be reimbursed by the OMCs and future price change should happen in line with Dynamic Pricing Mechanism. "A mechanism should be in place to isolate dealers from excise duty changes. Dealers should not make profit due to increase in excise duty, neither should they be burdened with loss due to reduction," it demanded.

The 24 states where dealers will join are Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal, Mizoram, Nagaland, Manipur, Tripura, Sikkim, the North Bengal Dealers Association, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttar Pradesh. **-IANS**

Money laundering: ED arrests Delhi Minister

#NEW DELHI

Delhi minister Satyendar Jain was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday in a money laundering case, with his Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) calling it a political move ahead of the Himachal Pradesh assembly polls.

He was taken into custody under criminal sections of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after a few hours of questioning, ED officials said. They alleged he was "evasive" in his replies.

The minister is expected to be produced before a designated court on Tuesday.

The arrest has been made by the federal agency in connection with alleged hawala dealings.

Reacting sharply to the arrest, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said Jain has been held in an eight-year-old "fake" case as he is the AAP's incharge for the Himachal Pradesh assembly elections and the BJP is afraid of losing the polls.

"A fake case has been going on against Satyendar Jain for eight years. He has been called by the ED several times so far. The ED had stopped calling him for some time because it did not find anything against him. Now it has again started because he is the incharge of Himachal Pradesh elections," Sisodia said in a tweet in Hindi.

Satyendra Jain

"The BJP is afraid of losing the elections and hence he was arrested to prevent him from going to Himachal. He will be released soon as he has been arrested in a fake case," Sisodia added.

Jain, 57, is the minister for health, industries, power, home, urban development and water in the Arvind Kejriwal-led government. The Himachal Pradesh assembly polls are slated for later this year and the AAP is looking to make inroads into the state after its stupendous victory in Punjab earlier this year. **-PTI**

Important leads in Moosewala murder

#CHANDIGARH/DEHRADUN

The Punjab Police on Monday said it has rounded up some people and got several important leads in the murder case of Sidhu Moosewala, even as a CCTV footage has emerged on social media which shows the Punjabi singer's vehicle being followed just before he was shot dead.

The Punjab Police on Monday also detained five men in Dehradun in connection with the case, officials said. Moosewala, who had fought the recent assembly elections in Punjab on a Congress ticket from Mansa, was shot dead on Sunday by unidentified assailants in Mansa district, a day after the state government curtailed his security cover.

As a manhunt has been launched to nab the culprits, the police are also investigating role of some people who could be seen in a CCTV footage procured from a 'dhaba' in Mansa where they were having meal on Sunday, said police sources.

Another CCTV footage has emerged on social media which shows that the vehicle of Moosewala was being followed just before bullets were sprayed on him, leading to his death, the sources said.

Talking to reporters in Mansa, Inspector General of Police (Faridkot range) Pradeep Yadav said police have got important leads in connection with the murder of Moosewala.

"We have got some important leads and some people have been rounded up," said Yadav when asked about the CCTV footage of 'dhaba'.

"Not only that, we have got several leads from important places and Punjab Police is working on that," said Yadav. **-PTI**

₹10L fine on SpiceJet for 'faulty training' of pilots

#NEW DELHI

The aviation regulator DGCA has imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on SpiceJet for training its Boeing 737 Max aircraft's pilots on a faulty simulator as it could have adversely impacted flight safety, sources said on Monday.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) had last month barred 90 SpiceJet pilots from operating the Max aircraft after it found them being trained on a simulator that had its stick shaker on the co-pilot's side inoperative. Stick shaker warns pilots whenever it detects that the plane has stalled mid-air.

After barring the pilots, the regulator issued a show-cause notice to the airline in April, the sources told PTI. The response sent by the airline was not found satisfactory, they mentioned.

"The training being imparted by the airline could have adversely affected flight safety and hence was nullified," one of the sources said. Therefore, the DGCA has imposed a penalty of Rs 10 lakh on SpiceJet for using a faulty simulator to train their Max aircraft's pilots, the sources said. The airline did not respond to PTI's request for a statement. The DGCA grounded Boeing 737 Max planes in India in March 2019, three days after an Ethiopian Airlines 737 Max aircraft crashed, killing 157 including four Indians. **-PTI**

India asked to supply more than 1.5 mn tonnes wheat

India has received requests for the supply of more than 1.5 million tonnes of wheat from several countries that need the staple to overcome shortages triggered by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, trade and government sources said on Monday.

"More than half a dozen countries have approached India for more than 1.5 million tonnes of wheat and we will see how to go about these requests," said a government official who didn't wish to be identified in line with official rules.

"India is keen to help vulnerable countries and anyone who needs wheat," said the official involved in decision making.

The bulk of the request has come from Bangladesh, a regular buyer of Indian wheat, the sources said. India, which has banned private wheat exports, is open to specific requests for grain from foreign governments.

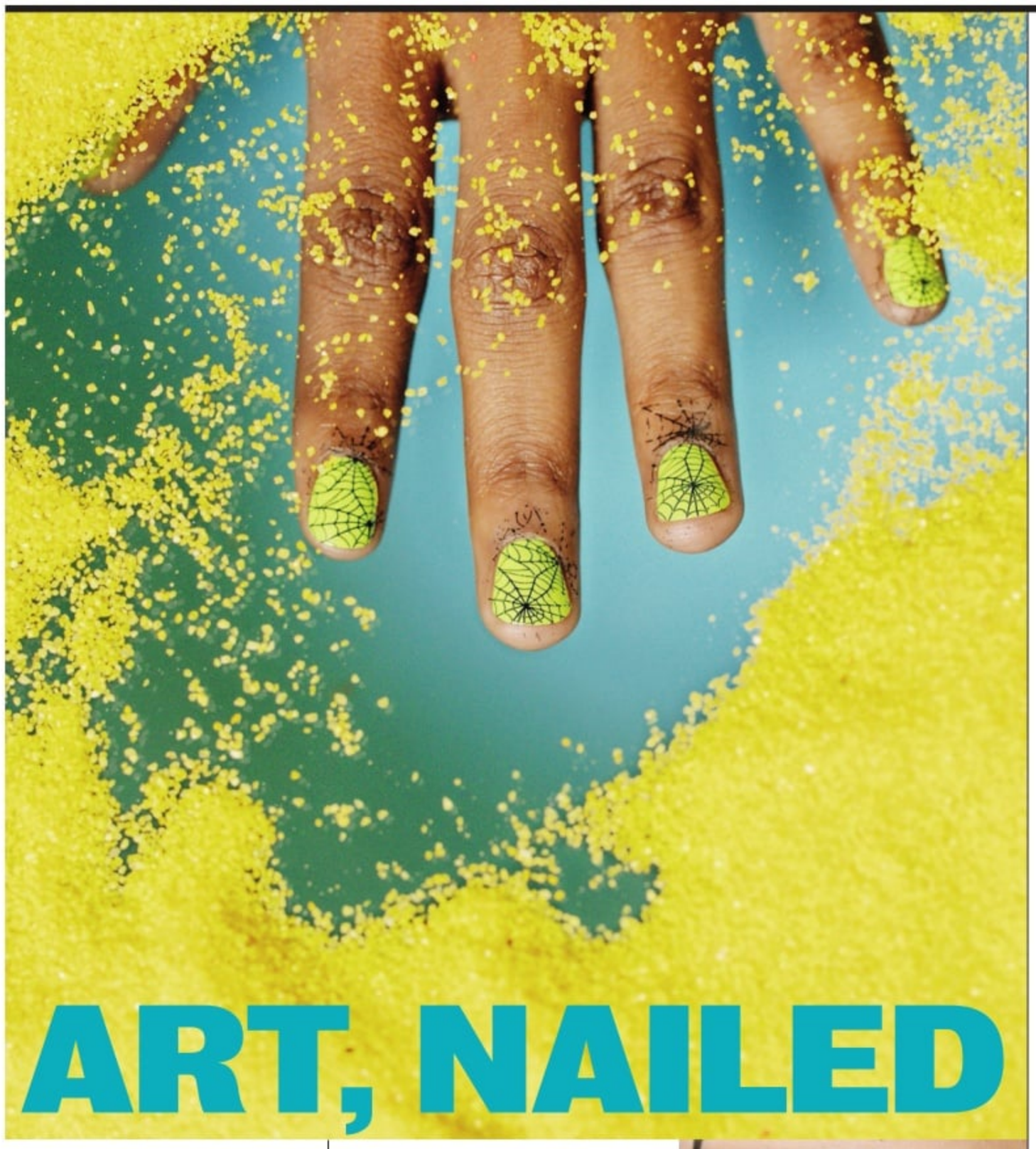
A worker spreads wheat for drying at a market in Chandigarh

For Bangladesh, Indian wheat is at least 30% cheaper than supplies from other origins, and it takes just about a week for Indian cargoes to reach there, said the chief of the Indian unit of a global trading firm. He didn't wish to be identified as he's not authorised to talk to the media.

Bangladesh recently floated a wheat import tender but Dhaka cancelled it later due to high priced bids.

Bangladesh imported a record 4 million tonnes of wheat from India in the fiscal year to March 2022 against 1.2 million tonnes bought a year earlier.

Other than Bangladesh, Egypt, the world's biggest wheat importer, has also requested the supply of 500,000 tonnes of the grain through diplomatic channels, they said. Jamaica and a few Asian countries are among other buyers looking for wheat from India, they said. **Reuters**



ART, NAILED

A run down on the current nail art situation

Ria Bhatia
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When I say the word nails, what is the first thing that comes to your mind? Sure, it could act as a reminder to trim or paint your own nails but it can also flash a series of loud, eccentric and OTT nails that you've been spotting on celebrity IG handles. As opposed to a few years ago, perking up the look and feel of your nails isn't just limited to wearing some red nail polish or opting for a French manicure – it's become bigger and better than ever before. Synonymous with art, 'getting nails done' is equivalent to painting different hues and carving designs and strokes of all kinds – pastels, electrics, neon as well as chic, edgy and pretty respectively. Besides giving you a run down of the current nail art situation, this entire phenomenon (of the nail art revolution) reveals one more very important thing – acceptance towards experimentation.

Founder of the White Door India, Sana Dhanani verifies the recent curiosity towards all things trendy nails as she says, "While nail art has always been around for a while now, with summer trends, the influence of Tik Tok and Instagram reels, and inspiration from all over the world, this nail art phenomenon has truly taken off. Nail art has previously been viewed as being time-intensive, hard to maintain ordeal, and reserved for special occasions. With the skill and technique that nail technicians have brought to the table in the recent past, this perception is greatly altered." Founder of Geetanjali Salon, Sumit Israin reprises the vital role of social media yet again, "We have seen a gradual increase in the demand for nail art services PAN India. Interestingly social media has played a major role in getting the traction for nail art services. Clients are inquisitive about the nail art services we offer with different techniques, products and accessories. As a result, we have started investing in professional training for nail artists and setting up nail art sections at all our key locations."

What's Hot Now?

"Powdery pastels, earthy tones, and accent nail art are super trendy right now. Neon and ombre nails are also making a

comeback to the space," apprises Dhanani. Israni shares some additional observations, "French tip nails are trending with different lengths nail products such as acrylic, dip; gel French tip nails can be done a variety of ways with different colours and designs, aside from the traditional white. Searches for colour and glitter alongside French tip nails reveal that consumers want to bring colour into the classic style by swapping out the classic white tip for a pastel colour, silver or chrome."

How Big Is The Shift?

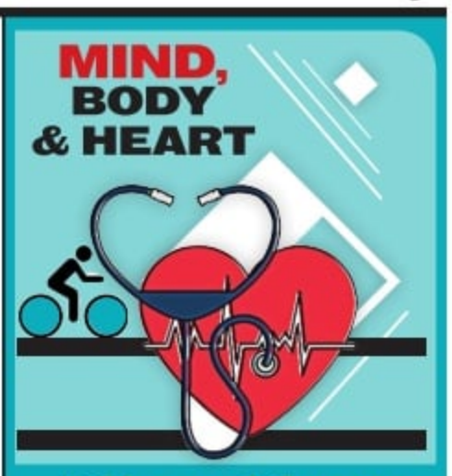
"There is definitely a shift from chic, boring and elegant french manicures to OTT nails in most of the locations. Blings, metallic details, floral bling and 3D stickers are taking over social media feeds and we see a lot of millennials opting for such nail art styles, inspired by international celebrities and influencers," says Israni. Dhanani, on the other hand, attributes some credit to runway fashion too, "I think international fashion weeks have always dictated the trends one can expect to see in the months to follow, this holds true even today. The more avant-garde the current fashion trends are, we see them catapult into the beauty space as well. There is no denying that there is definitely a Gen Z influence, while fashion is drawing from the 1990s and early 2000s, beauty inspiration from that time has also made its way to 2022." Additionally, "Inspiration from shows like Euphoria has become somewhat of a reference point for a number of beauty trends in 2022. Poppy colours, retro motifs, intricate design, and embellishments are here and thriving," she adds.

What Caused This Shift?

"I think the lockdown has definitely impacted the way people view themselves, they are now more than ever, willing to indulge in self-care and self-love. The emergence of short-form content on social media has also fuelled inspiration to create, innovate and rethink the norm. Individuals are now open to creating and carrying nail art that is representative of their personalities and not following the herd mentality. Gen Z also loves maintaining its aesthetics, both offline and online, which has created immense opportunity in the nail space," explains Dhanani. "West has definitely influenced South Asian markets for nail bar set ups and spaces. Interestingly not just women but male clients are also opting for gel nail services in metropolitan cities," cites Israni.

The Future Of Nail Art

"So far it's one of the high ticket prices and repeat services we have seen in recent years. With growing demand and increasing awareness around nail services, there is a lot more we can do and we are planning to do and capture the market in all the cities," shares Israni. "Much like any form of art, nail art is ever-evolving, open-to-interpretation, and extremely personal to an individual. At the moment, nail art is almost used as a canvas, an extension of one's personality and it is extremely liberating. We've also seen innovation in the space happen at a rapid rate, from glow-in-the-dark nails to more elaborate and embellished sets. The more modern take on the french manicure has also been seen in recent times, using colours and fluid designs to elevate the classic, traditional look," tells a futuristic Dhanani.



All problems solved

Dear Coleen

I have a friend who landed a really glamorous job a few months ago. Since then, she's been insufferable, talking about the people (celebrities) she's met, the places she's been and how great it all is.
I know it sounds as if I'm jealous, but it's more like she's changed and I don't know her any more.
I don't know why she feels she has to impress me - we've been friends since we were 11 and I think she's great, regardless of what job she has.
As well as the constant showing off, she's also become a bit of a b**. It's like she's playing a mean lady boss in a bad movie and she's nasty about her colleagues and even her friends, whom she thinks should be doing better in life.**
I want to say something to her, but I'm aware it might sound petty and envious. What's your advice?

COLEEN SAYS

I think as far as her being nasty goes, you can absolutely say something. I don't care what job someone does, there's no reason to be horrible about workmates and friends.
You can just say it makes her look mean and you've never thought of her as being mean before.
As far as her job goes it sounds like it's still a big novelty and she can't quite believe her luck, but I'm sure that'll wear off in time.
Also, ask yourself if maybe you are just a tiny bit envious. That's OK, all of us can be envious at times and if you can admit that, then it might help you deal with the situation a little better.

—Coleen Nolan, Daily Mirror

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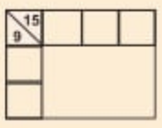
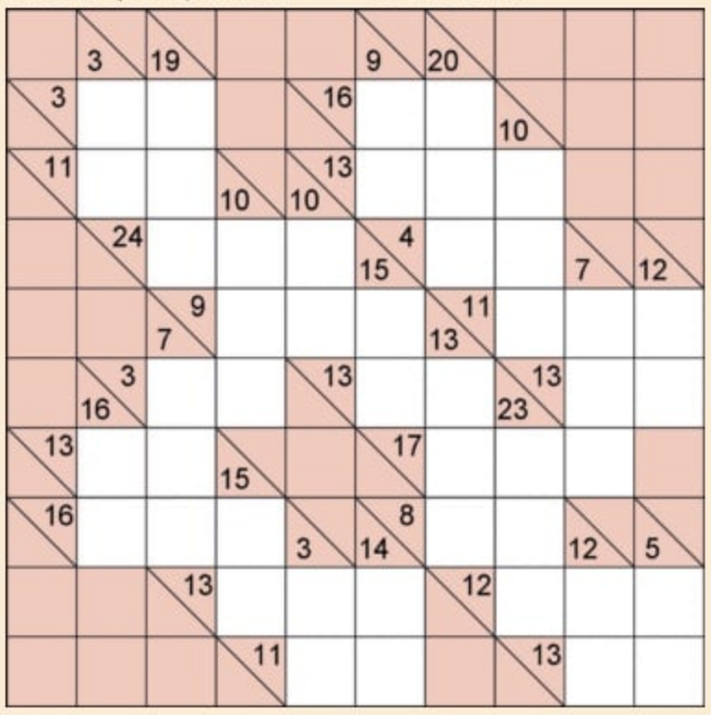
@BangaloreMirror

Kakuro

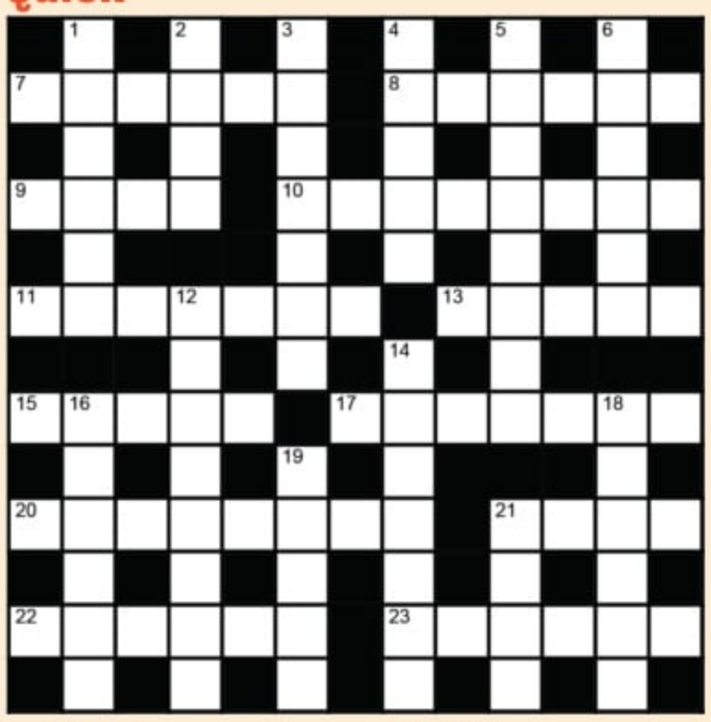
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Capital of Assam (6)
8 Like a curved gateway (6)
9 To be in Paris? (4)
10 Knock over, oust or overthrow by force (8)
11 Referees on the cricket field (7)
13 Worry (5)
15 Slumbered (5)
17 ___ Market: Market In Shivajinagar (7)
20 Ordinary writing (8)
21 Small rodents (4)
22 Besieges or attacks (6)
23 Lower-leg joints (6)

DOWN

1 Target or casualty (6)
2 Church part (4)
3 Small baby beds, usually on rockers (7)
4 Hesitate (5)
5 Explanations (8)
6 Pretends or concocts (6)
12 Attacked as false (8)
14 Outdoor timing device (7)
16 Mr Messi of Barcelona FC and Argentina (6)
18 Flunkey (6)
19 Rope with a noose (5)
21 M in the NATO alphabet (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS H

LE QZL KZL IEUY XVZD VY LYBYO VZF.

Linemaro

Is your name David. I want to be Goliath and fall for you

Mindchow

Formula for success: rise early, work hard, strike oil

Joke of the day

I think serial monogamy says it all

Loop

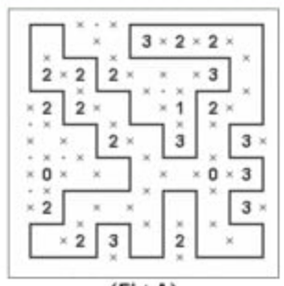
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

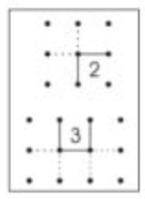
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

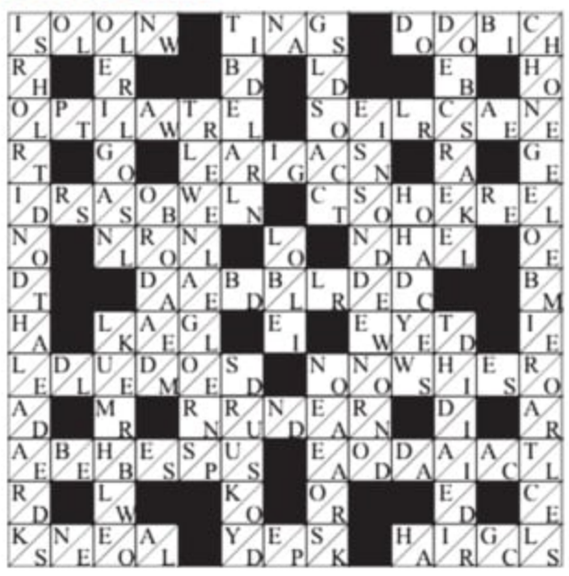


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9			M	

ACROSS

1 SS cad; 6 Comae; 7 Lou in; 8 Ousel; 9 Prems

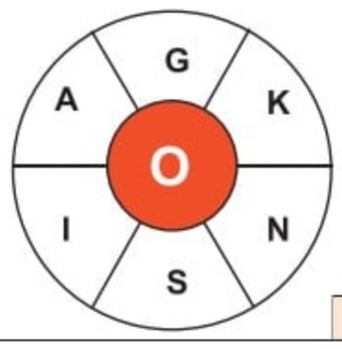
DOWN

1 L cups; 2 Ocean; 3 Ma our; 4 Dimes; 5 Loess

Mensapuzzle

What numbers should take the place of A & B?

Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

01 Average; 02 Good; 03 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

9		4		1			7	
				5	6			
			4			6	1	
		9			2			4
		2				7		
4			6			3		
	8	3			5			
			2	4				
	4			6		1		2

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

÷ × + −

Easy = 35

2 3 7 8

Medium = 4

2 3 8 9

Hard = 40

4 8 9 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

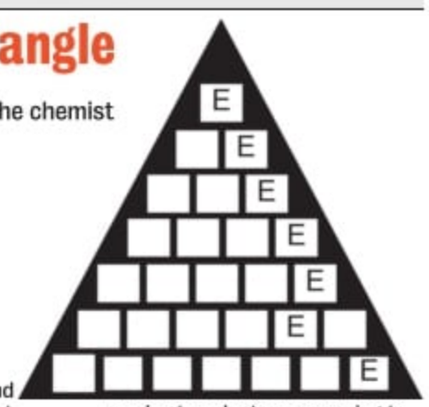
Differences: 1. Picture is moved. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Plates are moved. 4. Chair is moved. 5. Table is wider. 6. Boy is taller.

Riddler

What is a liquid at room temperature in its original state but solidifies when heated?

Alpha triangle

1 Second vowel
2 Germanium for the chemist
3 Grow old
4 Raving fury
5 Scope; compass
6 Peril
7 Drive crazy



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

GO SEE HOW MANY PALEFACE SOLDIERS ARE HIDING IN THOSE WOODS, TANGLEFOOT
AND DON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID!
MAKE UP YOUR MIND!
3-17
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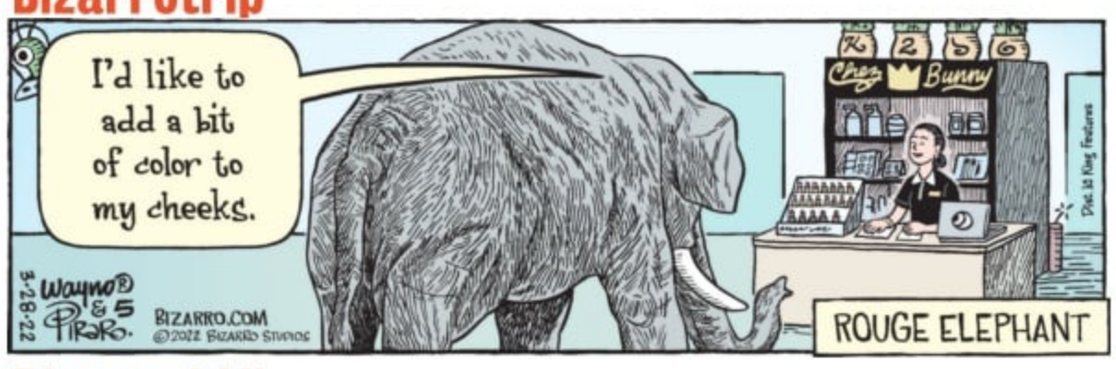
Bizarrotrip

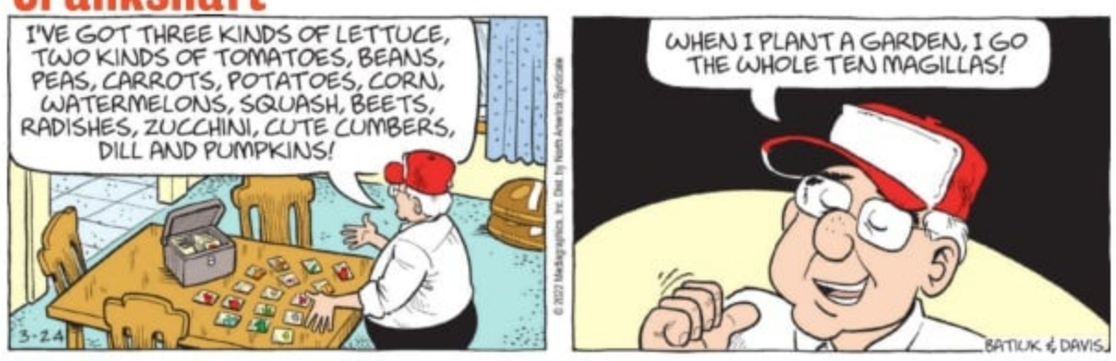


Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

HEART! YOUR "BLADE RUNNER" COSTUME IS DONE!
EQUAL RIGHTS + REPLICANTS
YOU GUYS! THIS LOOKS SO GOOD!
AND IF ANYONE ASKS YOU WHERE YOU GOT IT, GIVE THEM THIS.
OOOH, HOW LEGITIMATE!
DEAN+KAT'S COSPLAY SERVICE
HEART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


I'VE GOT THREE KINDS OF LETTUCE, TWO KINDS OF TOMATOES, BEANS, PEAS, CARROTS, POTATOES, CORN, WATERMELONS, SQUASH, BEETS, RADISHES, ZUCCHINI, CUTE CUMBERS, DILL AND PUMPKINS!
WHEN I PLANT A GARDEN, I GO THE WHOLE TEN MAGILLAS!
3-24
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is a positive day for you; you may get success for your hard work on professional and domestic front. You may have a good focus and you may complete your work on time which can improve your self-confidence. You may also expect some work-related short trip which may be beneficial in near future in terms of your network.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may be busy with domestic issues. You may spend money in buying some artefacts or household stuffs. You are advised to control spending on worthless stuff otherwise it may attract negative energy in the house. You are also advised to control your harsh speaking with people around you.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may feel comfortable after a messy situation. Your vitality may help you to implement some difficult decisions in parental business, which may grow it. You may help the needy around, which may increase your social respect. Students might be clear in choosing their career options.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel dull; your health may not be good. You may also have anxiety and restlessness. You are advised to postpone your important investments in business or real estate. You are advised to avoid rash driving. You should avoid long-distance travelling also. You may meditate; it will be helpful in getting a sound sleep.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, blessing from elders may make you happy; your investments may give you profits. Losses will be converted to profits now. Your savings may boost your bank balance. You may plan to invest in kid's future also. You may also enjoy some delicious food at home. Your problems related to throat, teeth, ear or nose may be resolved now.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you will be blessed by elders. Your patience may improve, your focus towards your work may be very good. Parent's health now become good. You are likely to spend your time with elders. You may also meet some influential person who may help you on the professional front. You may also enjoy your romantic moments which may increase harmony in domestic life.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may be spiritual, you may help the needy around you. You also plan to donate some amount to charity or religious place. Your good karma may help you get success in difficult projects. You may feel some divine power around you which may help you in unpredictable situations. You may be attracted by occult. Students are likely to enjoy studying in depth.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel dull; you may be a victim of hidden fear, which may make you scared. You will not be in the situation to trust anyone. It is advised to meditate, chant some prayers which may help you to come out from this hypothetical situation. With the help of elder's blessings around late evening, you may come out from this messy situation.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may be busy at work; your network may be increased and with the help of this network, you are likely to get a big order in terms of business and work. You are likely to start innovation in partnership. You may get some investments in your business which will increase your business in near future. Natives related to films, glamour, house hold stuff, interior may do better.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may find yourself in self-analysis state, which will bring some confidence in you. Your focus towards your goals will now be clear; you may achieve success to achieve your goal. Your creativity may improve and you will take an interest in artefacts, movies, glamour and real-life objects. At the end of the day, you may be satisfied with your life.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may help needy people around you. It will increase your reputation in your surroundings. New ideas may come into your mind, you are likely to help other people around you. You might implement innovation at work which may increase your business. Lovebirds may plan for outing or some adventure tour.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be dissatisfied; you may have some sort of detachment towards your responsibilities which may make you confused. You may plan hypothetically for your projects; you are advised to be practical in your work to complete it on time. You may also take care of your parents. If you're planning to migrate somewhere, it is advised to postpone it for some days.

KIDZONE

Rohan Banerjee, 9 Years, National Public School

Ansruta Bohra, 6 Years, National Public School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
{22-4[10/5*3]}^2
(22-24)^2
(-2)^2
4

BULL'S EYE
soak, SOAKING, song

STRIKE OUT

S	L	O	W		I	N	G	
H		R		D		L		E
O	P	I	A	T	E		O	L
T		G		E	A	G	A	N
I	S	A	B	E	L		T	O
N		N	O	N		N	A	E
T		D	A	B	B	L	E	D
H		K	E	G		I		W
E	L	U	D	E	D		N	O
D		M		R	U	D	E	R
A	B	B	E	S	S		A	D
R		L		K		R		E
K	E	E	L		Y	E	S	

FAST FIVE

S	C	A	D	S
C	A	M	E	O
U	N	O	I	L
L	O	U	S	E
P	E	R	M	S

RIDDLER
An egg

QUOTE UNCODE
No man can lose what he never had.

QUICK

		V		A		C		
	D		S		P		U	
L		S		A		R		R
	C		S		A		C	
D		I		S		L		E
	I		L		E		T	
E		T		R		E		
	D		I		S		L	
B		E		S		E		T
	O		L		E		D	
L		D		O		L		E
	F		A		P		A	

MENSA PUZZLE
A: 12 (Each number doubles its opposite lower number and adds two.)
B: 25 (Each number doubles its opposite lower number and adds three.)

SUDOKU

9	6	4	3	1	8	2	7	5
7	2	1	9	5	6	4	8	3
3	5	8	4	2	7	6	1	9
8	1	9	7	3	2	5	6	4
6	3	2	5	8	4	7	9	1
4	7	5	6	9	1	3	2	8
2	8	3	1	7	5	9	4	6
1	9	6	2	4	3	8	5	7
5	4	7	8	6	9	1	3	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
E, Ge, Age, Rage, Range, Danger, Deranged.

GO FIGURE
Easy
7 + 2 x 3 + 8 = 35
Medium
3 – 9 + 2 + 8 = 4
Hard
4 + 9 – 8 x 8 = 40

LOOP

KAKURO

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Kangana preps for directorial

After failing to impress the audience with her last release Dhaakad, Kangana Ranaut has now started prepping up for her next film titled, 'Emergency'. The film will mark the actress' second directorial

BangaloreMirror | 12
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Bling beauties

Bhavana Pandey and Ananya Panday make for a stylish mother-daughter duo and we have proof!

The star mother took to her Instagram handle to share a lovely picture of herself where she is seen twinning with her baby girl in shimmery outfits. She captioned it, 'All things bling !!!!'

Bhavana looked stunning in a silver shimmery bralette, pants and matching jacket. She completed her overall look with silver hoop earrings. Ananya, on the other hand, looked gorgeous as ever in her nude halter neck outfit with blingy details. Her silver accessories completed her overall glamorous look.

Bhavana and Ananya are both quite active on social media. In fact, Bhavana is one of the biggest cheerleaders of Ananya and her films. They often share pictures and videos of themselves and their loved ones on Instagram and their followers just can't have enough of them.

IAK debut soon?

Saif Ali Khan's kids Sara and Ibrahim with ex-wife Amrita Singh are all grown up. While Sara has already made her foray into Bollywood, Ibrahim is currently assisting Karan Johar in 'Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani'.

According to the latest report in a news portal, Karan had been looking for an appropriate subject for the Pataudi lad and has reportedly decided to adapt last year's successful Malayalam coming-of-age romantic drama, 'Hridayam' for Ibrahim's debut vehicle. The report also added that the filmmaker felt the character arc of the protagonist in Vineeth Sreenivasan's directorial venture is apt for Saif Ali Khan and Amrita Singh's son to showcase his acting chops.

Ibrahim recently made a stylish appearance at the red carpet of Karan Johar's 50th birthday bash with his sister Sara Ali Khan. He already commands a huge fan following. His pictures and videos on social media go viral in no time. He has also often been called the spitting image of his father Saif. 'Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani' stars Alia Bhatt and Ranveer Singh in lead roles. The movie also features Dharmendra, Shabana Azmi and Jaya Bachchan. It is slated to hit the theatres on February 10, 2023.

—ETimes

'Success has helped me find my voice'

Kiara elaborates how she feels at a successful point of journey in B-Town

Actor Kiara Advani says early rejections and recent successes -- "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2" and "Shershaah" -- have given her a sense of clarity about the kind of films she wants to be a part of. The actor made her debut in 2014 with "Fugly" and featured in films like "MS Dhoni: The Untold Story" (2016) and Abbas-Mustan's 2017 thriller "Machine", but it was the 2018 Netflix anthology "Lust Stories" that proved to be a career turnaround for her.

"I feel grateful for the start of my journey, even though there were things that didn't work out. I am grateful for the support I got from people, who gave me those chances and believed in me," Kiara told PTI in an interview.

In the past three years, the actor has been a part of two back-to-back blockbusters -- "Kabir Singh" and "Good Newwz" and critically-acclaimed Netflix film "Guilty"-- which she said has helped her find her "voice".

"Today, I have understood more about myself, which wasn't the case earlier. I started when I was 21. I didn't know who I was, who I wanted to be, what I wanted to say... I had a dream of becoming an actor, but I didn't know what kind of stories I wanted to tell or what my voice was," Kiara, 29, said.

With success, the actor said she may have gained clarity, but playing unique characters was always on her wish list. "I don't think success played a part in empowering me to make braver choices back then. When I chose to do 'Lust Stories' or 'Guilty', I was not at my peak. 'Lust Stories' was a choice I made because I wanted to work with Karan Johar. These films did well and pushed my career. It was all instinctive. Success makes you feel a sense of responsibility." After last year's OTT release "Shershaah" on Prime Video, Advani returned to the big screen with "Bhool Bhulaiyaa 2".

Her upcoming projects, Dharma Productions' "Jugjugg Jeeyo" and "Govinda Naam Mera", are billed as big-scale entertainers. She will also be seen with "RRR" star Ram Charan in an untitled film.

The actor wants to reach out to a larger audience. "I want to do films which will warrant a community viewing experience, want to be a part of films that reach out to a larger audience. Fortunately, all my three films are made for that. I want to make films now where families can go and watch. That is my goal," she added.

PTI

Vaani wants to go pan-Indian

Of late, pan-Indian films have been making a lot of noise. Movies like Pushpa: The Rise, RRR and K.G.F: Chapter 2 that released in multiple languages across the country set the cash registers ringing at the box office. Seeing the success stories of these projects, many actors are now willing to be a part of pan-Indian films. Like, Vaani Kapoor! In a recent interaction with Bombay Times, the actress wished that she gets to be a part of such a project soon.

She said, "I would love to be a part of a pan-Indian film. The bigger the audience, the better your chances of reaching out and connecting to a wider audience. Well, that is the ultimate goal and I shall manifest to find a project like that."

Currently, Vaani is excited to be working with Ranbir Kapoor on her next film. In an earlier chat with BT, she shared her experience working with the actor saying, "I feel that Ranbir puts his soul into his characters and you can connect to the soul of the person he's playing on screen. His acting looks so real, that you don't feel like he is acting! This is exactly why it feels magical to see him perform on screen..."

—ETimes